

EMPLOYEE INFORMATION CIRCULAR (Rosslyn Area)

27 JUN 1972

SUBJECT: Metro Construction Activities

1. As most employees in the Rosslyn area have been made "explosively" aware, the Bechtel Corporation is in the process of constructing portions of the Metro system in the Rosslyn area. The construction activity includes excavation of the main tunnel (under North Lynn Street), plus supporting structures.

2. The method of excavating for the Metro subway in the area involves the use of explosives because the tunnel must go through rock in this area rather than soil. The work requires that an access tunnel be excavated from in front of the Ames Building down to the underground Rosslyn Station where the excavation will change direction to follow the future train route. Additionally, a vertical air vent will be constructed directly across the street from the Magazine Building.

3. During this current phase of excavation of the vertical access to the station, engineers, technicians, and others representing the Ames Building owner, Metro, and the Agency have monitored the effects of the blasting shock on the Ames Building using a seismograph. This instrument indicated that the blasting has had no effect on the building's physical integrity and has, in fact, hardly begun to use the strength designed into the building for such protection against blasting, earthquakes, or wind forces.

4. The tunnel excavation is now proceeding away from the Ames Building and the concussive effect of the blasting should begin to diminish gradually. Until that time, this building will continue to be monitored to ensure the safety of the Agency's employees.

5. Plans of the construction are available in the Real Estate and Construction Division, OL, 906 Ames Building, if any interested personnel wish to see them. Additionally, subject to ongoing workload, engineers of this Division are available to answer specific inquiries involving the Metro construction activities.

6. Continuing liaison is being maintained with the Metro supervisory engineers; subsequent circulars will be issued covering schedules, progress, and other items of general interest.

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Chief

Real Estate and Construction Division  
Office of Logistics